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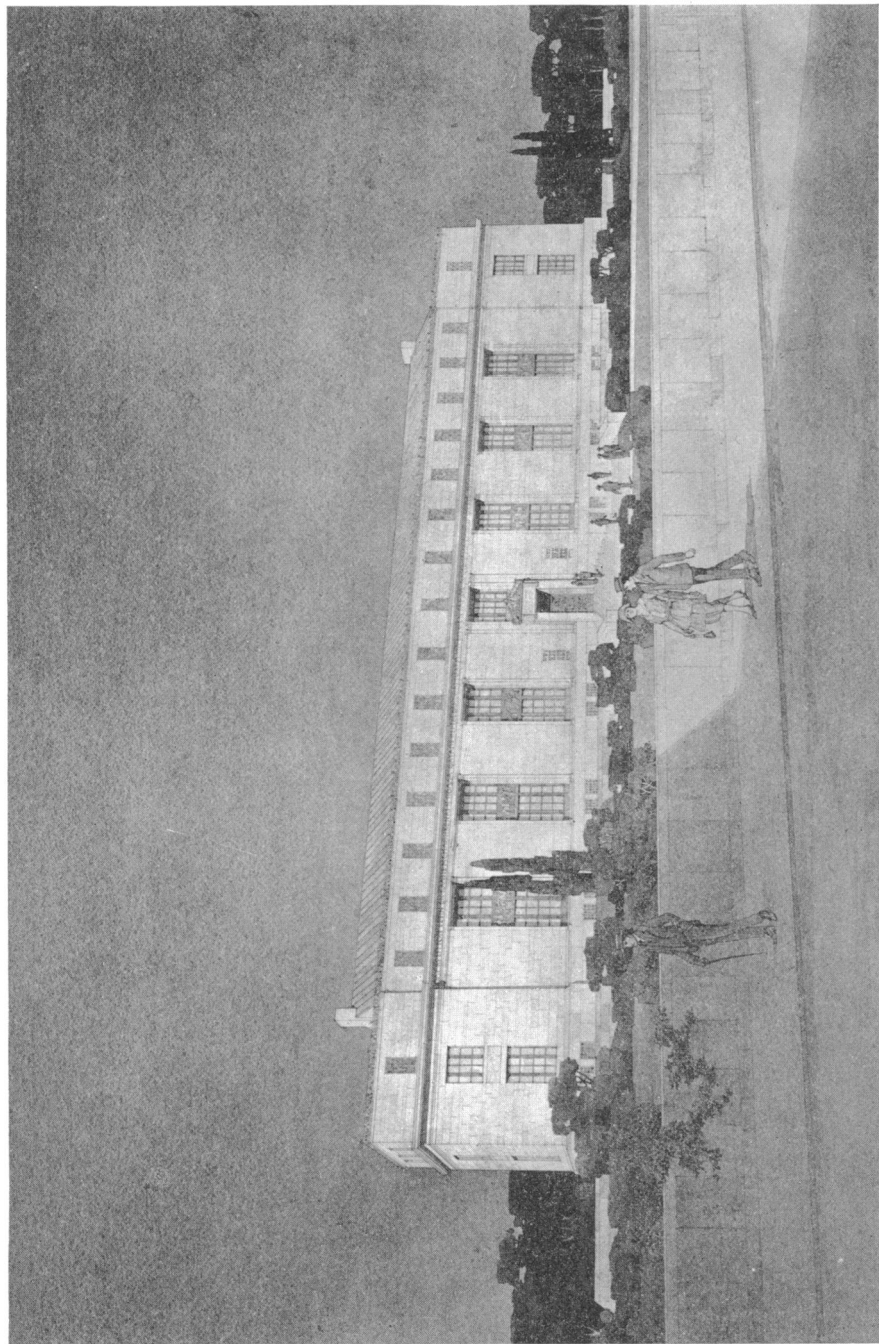
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ARCHITECT'S DRAWING OF THE BUILDING TO BE ERECTED BY THE CARNEGIE CORPORATION FOR THE  
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

THE PROGRESS OF SCIENCE<sup>1</sup>

## BUILDING OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

A HOME for the National Academy in the national capital will be provided through the erection of a magnificent building costing \$1,300,000 that will house the activities of the academy and the National Research Council. A description of the new building was given by Dr. C. D. Walcott, president of the academy, at the recent meeting in Washington.

Facing the Lincoln Memorial, the marble building in simple classical style will rise three stories from a broad terrace. It has a frontage of 260 feet. On the first floor there will be an auditorium seating some 600 people, a lecture hall holding 250, a reading room, library, conference rooms and exhibition halls. The basement contains a cafeteria and kitchen. The two upper floors will be devoted to offices.

The building is the gift of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, while the ground was bought at a cost of about \$200,000 through the donations of about a score of benefactors. Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue of New York is the architect. He is one of the best known architects in the country and designed the St. Thomas Church, the West Point buildings, the Nebraska State Capitol and many other buildings. The contract for the construction of the building has been let to Charles T. Wills, Inc., of New York, and it is expected that the building will be ready for occupancy in the autumn of 1923. Lee Laurie, the sculptor, has been selected to do the decorations, which will symbolize and depict the progress of science and its benefits to humanity. A series of bronze bas-reliefs will show a proces-

sion of the leaders of scientific thought from the earliest Greek philosophers to modern Americans.

On passing through the entrance hall the visitor will find himself in a lofty rotunda. Here he will see in actual operation apparatus demonstrating certain fundamental scientific facts that hitherto he has had to take on hearsay. A coelostat telescope, mounted on the dome of the central rotunda, will form a large image of the sun on the white surface of a circular table in the middle of the room. Here visitors will be able to see the sun-spots, changing in number and form from day to day, and moving across the disk as the sun turns on its axis. A 60-foot pendulum, suspended from the center of the dome, will be set swinging through a long arc, repeating the celebrated experiment of Foucault. The swinging pendulum will mark an invariable direction in space, and as the earth and the building rotate beneath it, their rotation will be plainly shown by the steady change in direction of the pendulum's swing over a divided arc. Other phenomena to be demonstrated in striking form in the central rotunda are magnetic storms, earthquakes, gravitational pull of small masses, the pressure of light, the visible growth of plants, swimming infusoria in a drop of ditch water, living bacteria, and other interesting phenomena.

In the seven exhibition rooms surrounding the central rotunda the latest results of scientific and industrial research will be illustrated. One room will be set aside for the use of government bureaus, another for industrial research laboratories, others for the laboratories, observatories and research institutes of universities and other institutions. The newest discoveries and advances in the mathe-

<sup>1</sup> Edited by Watson Davis, Science Service.



SKETCH OF ENTRANCE TO THE NEW BUILDING OF THE  
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

matrical, physical and biological sciences and their applications will be shown in this living museum, whose exhibits will be constantly changing with the progress of science. One week there may be displayed the latest forms of radio telephony; the next perhaps a set of psychological tests or a new find of fossils or a series of synthetic chemical compounds.

#### MEDALS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

At the annual dinner of the Na-

tional Academy of Sciences, April 25, the J. Lawrence Smith Medal was bestowed upon Dr. George P. Merrill, curator of geology at the United States National Museum. This is a gold medal of the value of \$200, from a fund established in 1884, as a reward for "original investigation of meteoric bodies." But because investigators in this field are so rare it has not been given since 1888. Dr. Whitman Cross, in his speech presenting the medal, pointed out that Dr. Merrill had continued to carry on the work of his predecessor, J. Lawrence